

ORANGE FREE STATE

THE REPUBLIC: 1868 TO 1900

PURPOSE

The purpose of this exhibit is to show the production of the definitive issues and their many printings and usages. In addition, the numerous provisional issues needed due to shortages and rate changes are illustrated. Postal rates are dealt with in great detail because they were the reason for new values and many of the provisional issues.

BACKGROUND

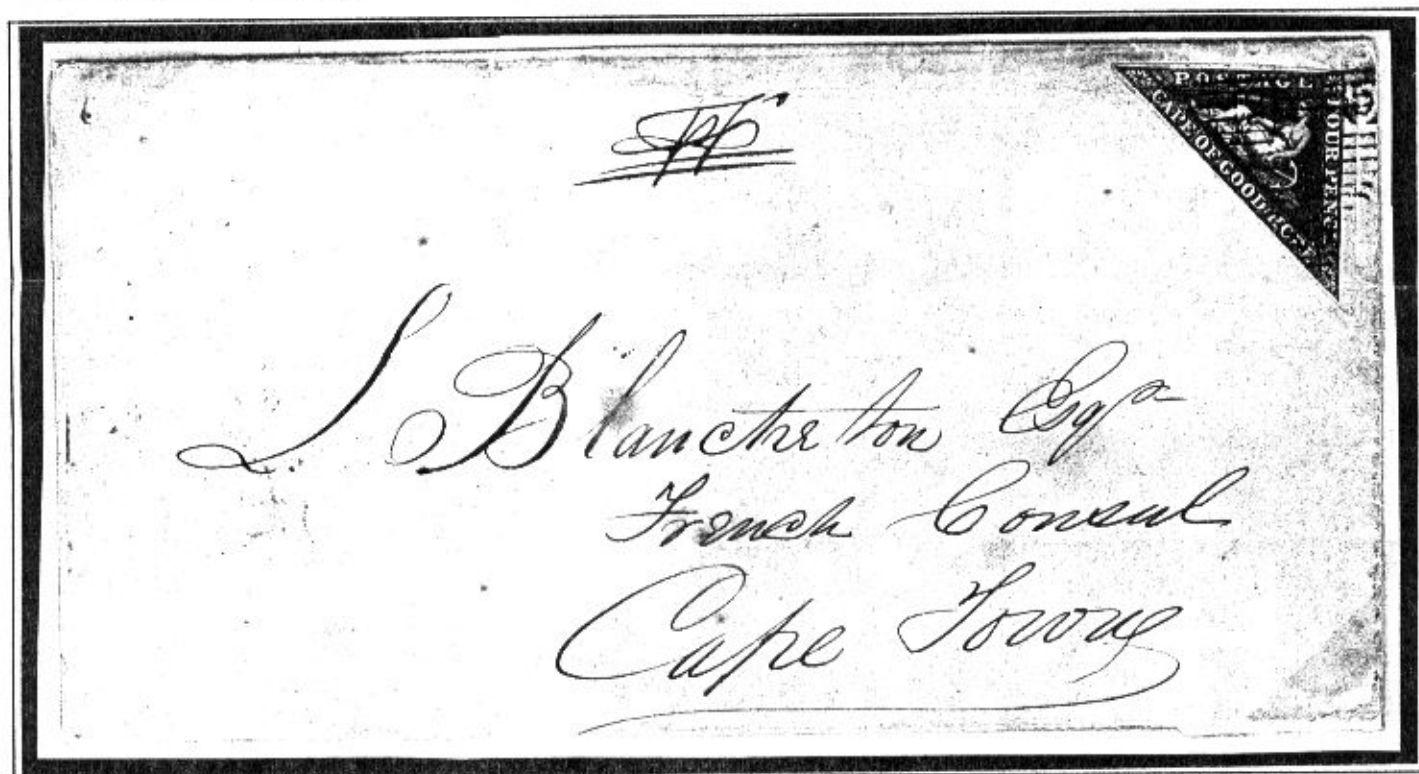
Stamps were introduced in January 1868 and the same design was used for the next 32 years. All issued stamps featured the Tree of Liberty with three posthorns, the country name on three sides and the value at the bottom. De la Rue & Co. of London produced all unoverprinted stamps. F. Borckenhagen & Co. of Bloemfontein produced all provisional issues. Orange Free State stamps became obsolete when the British occupied the Republic during the Boer War in 1900.

EXHIBIT PLAN

This exhibit shows the definitive and provisional issues of the Republic, including archival material, printings and postal history. The latest rate and destination research, as compiled by this exhibitor, is illustrated. *Significant items are double matted.* The order of the exhibit is as follows:

Definitive values of 1868: 1d, 6d, 1/-
1877 provisional issue: 4 on 6d
1877 definitive values: 4d, 5/-
1881-82 provisional issues: 1d on 5/-, ½d on 5/- and 3d on 4d
1882-83 definitive values: 1½d, 3d, 2d
1888-94 provisional issues: 2d on 3d, 1d on 4d, 1d on 3d, 2½d on 3d
1894-96 definitive values in changed colors: 1d, ½d, 6d, 1/-
1896-97 provisional issues: ½d on 3d, Halve Penny on 3d, 2½ on 3d
Boer War uses

PRE-STAMP USAGE



6d internal, 4d CCH letter rate. Manuscript "pp" (postpaid) denotes OFS payment. Dateline Fauresmith Feb 17, 1855, Colesburg FE 20 1855 transit and Cape Town FE 27 1855 receiving cancel on reverse.